REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending.

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by Kanno (US 2001/0025691).

Claims 1-8 and 12-20 are allowed.

Claims 10-11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Changes in the Claims:

Claim 9 has been canceled.

Claim 10 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of claim 9. No new matter has been added.

Rejection under 35 USC §102(e) – claim 9

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by Kanno. This rejection is moot because claim 9 has been canceled.

Objections to claims 10-11

Claims 10 and 11 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claim 10 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of claim 9. Claim 11 depends from claim 10.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 10 and 11 are now allowable.

Docket No.LAM-P1028X (032747-042)

Conclusion

For all of the above reasons, applicants submit that the amended claims are now

in proper form, and that the amended claims all define patentable subject matter over the

prior art. Therefore, Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for

allowance.

Request for allowance

It is believed that this Amendment places the above-identified patent application

into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is

earnestly solicited. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the

prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at

the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

THELEN REID & PRIEST LLP

Dated: January 25, 2005

Thierry K. L&

Reg. No. 49,097

Thelen Reid & Priest LLP

P.O. Box 640640

San Jose, CA 95164-0640

(408) 282-1810 Direct

(408) 292-5800 Main

(408) 278-8210 Fax